CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name:

Harlowton FTTP Upgrade

Proposed

Implementation Date:

Summer 2018

Proponent:

Triangle Communications

Location:

7N 15E 16

7N 18E 16, 34, 36

8N 14E 16 9N 14E 22

County:

Wheatland

Trust:

Common

I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

Triangle Communications has requested an easement strip twenty feet wide, 10 feet on each side of the centerline through above said tracts to install and maintain an underground telecommunication cable

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Northeastern Land Office (NELO)

Triangle Communications

Surface Lessees: Montana Mexican John Ranch LLC, Ag reserves INC, Taber Ranch LLC, Tim Murnion, John M. Lynn, Two Dot Land and Livestock Co.

2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

The DNRC, and NELO have jurisdiction over this proposed project.

The proponent is responsible for acquiring all required permits for the proposed project. The proponent is responsible for settling all surface damages with the surface lessees.

DNRC is not aware of any other agencies with jurisdiction or other permits needed to complete this project

3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative A (No Action) – Under this alternative, the Department does not grant an easement for an underground telecommunication cable.

Alternative B (the Proposed Action) – Under this alternative, the Department does grant an easement for an underground telecommunication cable.

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.
- Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.
- Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:

Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.

7N 15E 16

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Component name (percent)	Rating reasons	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
403A	Fairway loam, 0	Slight	Fairway (85%)		10.5	7.5%
	to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded		Meadowcreek (7%)	¥		
			Soapcreek (5%)			
			Swampcreek			
			(3%)			
416B	Fairway-Korchea loams, 0 to 4	Slight	Fairway (45%)		27.9	19.7%
	percent		Korchea (40%)			
	slopes, rarely flooded		Havre (5%)			
	1100000		Richey (2%)			
461B	Varney gravelly	Slight	Varney (85%)		2.2	1.6%
	loam, 0 to 4 percent		Sieben (5%)			
	slopes, fan		Notter (5%)			
			Ethridge (5%)			
465C	Sieban gravelly loam, 2 to 8	Slight	Sieben (85%)		100.6	71.2%
	percent		Sixbeacon (5%)			
	slopes, fan		Notter (5%)			
			Varney (5%)			
Totals for Area	of Interest				141.3	100.0%

7N18E 16

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Component name (percent)	Rating reasons	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
578	Attewan loam, 0	Slight	Attewan (75%)		37.7	25.8%
	to 4 percent slopes		Scravo (6%)			
			Sieben (6%)			
			Amesha (5%)			
			Varney (4%)			
			Verson (4%)			
116F	Cabbart-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 60 percent slopes	5			0.9	0.6%
157F	Cabbart, moist-	Severe	Cabbart (65%)	Slope/erodibility	27.2	18.6%
	Rock outcrop complex, 15 to		Twilight (10%)	Slope/erodibility		
	60 percent slopes	2	Blacksheep (3%)	Slope/erodibility		
	Diopos		Delpoint (2%)	Slope/erodibility		
894C	Scravo gravelly loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes			*	40.9	27.9%
894E	Scravo gravelly loam, 8 to 35 percent slopes				39.7	27.1%
Totals for Area	of Interest				146.4	100.0%

7N18E34

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Component name (percent)	Rating reasons	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
79E	Cabbart-Crago-	Moderate	Cabbart (40%)	Slope/erodibility	77.5	35.0%
	Delpoint complex, 15 to		Crago (30%)	Slope/erodibility		
	35 percent slopes		Delpoint (20%)	Slope/erodibility		
	Siopes		Yamacall (5%)	Slope/erodibility		
			Yawdim (5%)	Slope/erodibility		
95C	Crago-Attewan	Slight	Crago (50%)		6.5	2.9%
	cobbly loams, 2 to 8 percent		Attewan (40%)			
	slopes		Niart (6%)			
			Musselshell (4%)			
112D	Cabbart- Delpoint, calcareous, ioams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	,			0.6	0.3%
815C	Yamacall loam,	Slight	Yamacall (85%)		2.3	1.1%
	calcareous, 4 to 8 percent		Delpoint (5%)	*		
	slopes		Kremlin (5%)			
			Kobase (5%)			
830C	Eapa loam, 4 to 8 percent slopes				1.0	0.4%
893B	Crago-	Slight	Crago (50%)		133.4	60.3%
	Musselshell complex, 0 to 4 percent		Musselshell (40%)			
	slopes		Niart (5%)			
			Rothiemay (5%)			
Totals for Area	of Interest				221.3	100.0%

7N18E36

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Component name (percent)	Rating reasons	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
360	Yamacall-	Slight	Yamacall (50%)		11.4	41.2%
	Delpoint loams, 2 to 8		Delpoint (40%)			
	percent slopes		Cabbart (5%)	6		
			Kremlin (3%)			
			Boxwell (2%)			
157F	Cabbart, moist-	Severe	Cabbart (65%)	Slope/erodibility	0.1	0.3%
	Rock outcrop complex, 15 to		Twilight (10%)	Slope/erodibility		
	60 percent slopes		Blacksheep (3%)	Slope/erodibility		
	stopes		Delpoint (2%)	Slope/erodibility		
844E	Cabbart-	Moderate	Cabbart (55%)	Slope/erodibility	14.2	51.3%
	Yawdim-Rock outcrop		Yawdim (30%) .	Slope/erodibility		
	complex, 4 to 35 percent		Megonot (5%)	Slope/erodibility		
	slopes		Delpoint (5%)	Slope/erodibility		
W.	Water				2.0	7.2%
Totals for Area	of Interest			L	27.6	100.0%

8N14E16

Percent of AO	Acres in AOI	Rating reasons	Component name (percent)	Rating	Map unit name	Map unit symbol
1.8	4.2		Havre (50%)	Slight	Havre-Harlake	424A
	*******		Harlake (35%)		complex, 0 to 4 percent	
			Yamacall (5%)		slopes	
			Kobase (5%)			
			Clunton (5%)			
5.29	11.8		Gerdrum (40%)	Slight	Gerdrum-Vanda-	429C
5.2	11.00		Vanda (30%)		Creed complex, 0 to	
	*		Creed (20%)		8 percent	
			Ethridge (5%)		slopes, fan	
			Nobe (5%)			
17.39	39.0		Varney (85%)	Slight	Varney gravelly	461B
17.31	35.0		Sieben (5%)		loam, 0 to 4	
			Notter (5%)		percent slopes, fan	
			Ethridge (5%)		^ ~	
V 20 20	20.0		Verson (85%)	Slight	Verson loam, 0	470B
15.09	33.9		Attewan (5%)	Olignic	ta 4 percent	
					slopes, fan	
			Radersburg (5%)			
			Ethridge (5%)	Dr L.	Kobase silty clay	471C
16.39	36.7		Kobase (85%)	Slight	loam, 0 to 4	47.10
			Richey (5%)		percent slopes	
			Rothiemay (5%)			
			Yamacall (5%)			4706
1.69	3.5		Kobase (50%)	Slight	Kobase-Megonot complex, 0 to	473C
		A	Megonot (40%)		8 percent	
			Yawdim (4%)		slopes	
			Yamacall (3%)			
			Delpoint (3%)			TATALET VICTORIA
2.19	4.8		Kobase (50%)	Slight	Kobase, calcareous-	474C
			Megonot (40%)		Megonot	
			Delpoint (5%)		complex, 0 to 8 percent	
			Yawdim (3%)		slopes, fan	
			Yamacall (2%)			
1.39	3.0		Zatoville (50%)	Slight	Zatoville-Kobar	475C
	1		Kobase (40%)		complex, 2 to	
	1		Orinoco (5%)		8 percent slopes	
			Gerdrum (3%)		510003	
			Richey (2%)			
22.69	51.1		Ethridge (85%)	Slight	Ethridge clay	476B
			Evanston (5%)		loam, 1 to 4 percent	
		-	Cobase (5%)		slopes, fan	
			/erson (5%)			
0.19	0.3		Crago (85%)	Slight	Crago gravely	494C
0.13	0.3		3inna (5%)	3	loam, 0 to 8 percent	
			Musselsheil (5%)		slopes, fan	
			Niart (5%)			
		Claration district	Crago (85%)	Moderate	Crago gravelly	194E
2.39	5.1	Slope/erodibility	Es is eset	Moderate	loam, 8 to 35	15.5.
		Slope/erodibility	Binna (5%)		percent slopes, fan	
		Slope/erodibility	Musselshell (5%)			
		Slope/erodibility	Viart (5%)	011-11	Crans	198A
14.09	31.7		Crago (40%)	Slight	Crago- Musselshell-	196A
			/lusselshell (30%)		Attewan	
			(30%) kttewan (20%)		complex, 0 to 2 percent	
			AV 20 00==00 (A)		slopes	
			Marias (5%)			
			Rothiemay (5%)		Water	٧
0.3%	0.7				r.aues	90 0 ~ >

Soils affected by this project are highlighted on the tables. All affected soils are rated slight for off road erosion, with two exceptions. There is one unit that has a moderate rating but the proposed trench will be running in the borrow ditch along a gravel road and within the highway right-of way, therefore no impacts are expected.

One drainage crossing in 7N 18E S16 is ranked as severe for off road erosion. This stretch of disturbance may require fiber wattles or erosion matting and prompt seeding after disturbance due to the steep slopes in the drainage.

No cumulative effects to geology and soil quality, stability and moisture are anticipated.

5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:

Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.

Trenching will occur near Deadman's Basin reservoir and the Musselshell river but are not expected to impact water resources.

No cumulative effects to the water resources are anticipated.

6. AIR QUALITY:

What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.

The air quality in the area will not be affected.

No cumulative effects to air quality are anticipated.

7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:

What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.

The proposed easement route would run through native rangeland on all the proposed tracts. The disturbed area will be limited to the trenching/ripping area. Seeding and reclamation will be required to maintain grass cover on rangeland. If cover hasn't established in two growing seasons the proponent will be responsible for reseeding.

If re-seeding is necessary the proponent will acquire certified, weed free seed and refer to the Plant Materials Tech Note No. MT-46 (Rev. 4) dated September 2013 for seeding rates.

No noxious weeds previously recorded on any tracts but some invasive weeds are present and will need controlled.

No rare plants or cover types are present.

No long term cumulative effects to vegetation are anticipated.

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/mt/plantsanimals/?cid=nrcs144p2_05773

8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:

Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.

The area is not considered critical wildlife habitat. Most of the work is done by adjacent public roads where wildlife habitat quality has already been reduced.

No cumulative effects are anticipated.

9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:

Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.

5	pecies	of	Conc	ern
8	Species			
F	Stered by t	he t	ollowing	criteria

MT Status = Species of Concern
Township = 007ND13F (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

NGE % OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	TATIAAH
71%	Grasslands
RAN	RANGE % OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE

								order - services		4 SPECIES Species Occurrence:	
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLGBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	3: OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	TATIBAH	
Aquila chrysaetos Golden Eagle	Accipitridae Hawks / Kites / Eagles	G5	\$3	BGEPA; MSTA; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	3%	100%	Grasslands	
		Gallatin, Garriel	d, Glacier, Golde , Powder River, F	n Valley, Granite, Hi	averhead, Big Horn, Blar II, Jefferson, Judith Bas III, Richland, Roosevelt,	in, Lake, Lewis and C	lark, finerty Lincoin	Madison, Mccore, Mr.	agher, Massuca, Moss	oleheil Park Petrolenun	
Buteo regalis Ferrogneus Hawk	Accipitridae Hawks / Kites / Eagles	G4	\$38	MBTA; BCC10; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	11%	95%	Sagebrush grassland	
		Valley, Hill, Jeffe	erson, Judith Bas	these Counties: Be In, Lewis and Clark, Theatland, Wibbio, 1	Liberty, Madison, Mccon	water, Carter, Cascac e, Meagher, Musselsh	le, Chouteau, Custer, sell, Park, Petrolaum,	Daniels, Dawson, Falia Phillips, Porders, Pow	m, Fergus, Gahatin, G der River, Prainte, Roo	iarfield, Glackir, Golden osevelt, Roseoud, Shendan,	
Catharus fuscescens	Turdidae	G5	538	MBTA		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	6%	100%	Riparian forest	
Verry	Thrushes	Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Beavurhead, Big Horn, Blane, Broadwater, Carpon, Castade, Choureau, Custon, Beor Lodge, Forgus, Flathead, Gallotin, Glacier, Granite, Jefferson, Jake, Lewis and Calars, Horten, Machael, Marcola, Manachael, Marcola, Machael, Petroleum, Britting, Brit									
Centrocercus urophasianus Greater Sage-Grouse	Phastanidae Upland Game Birds	6364	52		Sensitive - Known on Forests (BD) Sensitive - Suspected on Forests (CG, HLC)	SENSITIVE	5GCN7	17%	75%	Sagebrush	
		Species Occurre Valley, Hill, Made Wibaux, Yollowst		these Counties: Re- agner, Musselshell, I	swinhean, Big Horn, Bla- ark, Petroleum, Philips	re, Broodwater, Car: Powder River, maki	er, Cartin, Christian e, Muserett, Rosebus	Coster, Drewson, Dec- I, Silver Bow, Stalwate	Lodge Fallon, Fergo, 1, tweet Grass, Debat	s, Gallatin, Garlie d, Gelder He. Valley, Wheatland,	
fumenius americanus Long-titled Curtew	Scolopacidae Sandpipers	G5	538	MBTA; BCC10; BCC11; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCH3	19%	100%	Grasslands	
		Plathead Gallati	H, Carl Mile, Circ	ten Golden Valueta C	workeen, Big Horn, Blai marrie, Hill, Jefferson, N., Richland, Roddevell	for the Saster Large La	MARKET STATE AND ADDRESS.	to Manufacture discussion has	and the same and the same of the same of	and the second of the second second second second	

REPART OF SPECIAL										Species Occurrence
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF AT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	HABITAT
Phrynosoma hernandesi Greater Short-homed Lizard	Phrynosomatidae Sagebush / Spiny Lizards	G5	.53		Sensitive • Known on Forests (CG) Sensitive • Suspected on Forests (HIC)	SENS[T]VE	SGCN3, SGIN	19%	66%	Sandy / gravelly soils
		Species Occurrent Line's and Clark, L Wheettang, William	rockey mechanical	nese Counties: I meserabett, Pern	ng Horn, Starre, Breadwat, olmum, Skrittes, Bendern, P	er Carbon, Carter, t lowder River, Prairie	ascade Chouteau, Cu Richland, Roosewest,	ster, Dawson, Fergus, Renebup, Stillwater, 9	Gatlatin, Carnels, Gi West Grass, Tetan, Tr	ector, Golden Valley, Hr.L. die: Treasure, Valley,

THE CONTRACTOR									7 205116	1 APROTES
										Species Occurrence:
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOPAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	HABITAT
Chrosomus eos	Cyprinidae	G5	53				SGCN3	4%	27%	Small prairie rivers
Northern Redbelly Dace	Minnaws	State Rank Reaso	n: The worthern	edora, Richland, Ri	rotovett, Shamban, St rently thites he an "S)	litwater, Sweet Erass.	Tetro, Cartheld, Colde	or Valley, Hitl. Judito 8	Lastis, Lessis and Clark	

Species of Concern
13 Species
Piltered by the following criteria:
MT Settus: Species of Concern
Township = 007M018f (asset on imaged Species Occurrences)

Species Occurrences SCIENTIFIC NAME
COMMON NAME
TAXA SORT

Cynomys ludovicianus
Black-tailed Prairie Dog 8 OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT BREEDING RANGE 128 718 FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC)
FAMILY (COMMON) GLOBAL STATE AND USFWS USFS BLM FWP SWAP BREEDING RANGE IS OF MY THAT IS BREEDING RANGE HARITAT

G4 S3. Sensitive - Known SENSIT IVE SCENS 15% 71% Greening RANGE HARITAT

Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Big Hum, Blaine, Carton, Carton, Carton, Counties, Counties, Carton, Carton, Counties, Counties, Carton, Carton, Counties, Counties, Carton, Carton, Counties, Counties, Carton, Carton, Counties, Carton, Counties, Carton, Counties, Counties, Carton, Carton, Counties, Carton, Carton, Carton, Carton, Counties, Carton, Counties, Carton, Sciuridae Squinets

BIRDS (AVES)								DATH MUNICIPALITY		10 SPECIES
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	
Aquila chrysaetos Golden Eagle	Accipitridae Hawks / Kites / Eagles	G5	\$3	BGEPA; ABTA; BCC17		SENSIT IVE	SGCN3	3%	toos	HABITAT Grasslands
	_		a. Powder River.		caverhead, Big Horn, Bla- Bi, Jefferson, Jud III Bas elli, Richland, Romevelt.					
Catharus fuscescens	Turdidae	G5	538	MBTA		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	6%	100%	Riparian forest
Veery	Thrushes				saverhead Big Horn, Bla- adison, Accomo Moagher Sweet Grais Teton, Whe		and the second second		110,000,00	
Centrocercus urophasianus Greater Sage-Grouse	Phasianidae Upland Game Birds	€3€4	52		Sensitive - Known on Forests (RD) Sensitive - Suspected on Forests (CG, HLC)	SENSITIVE	5GCN2	17%	75%	Sagebrush
		Species Occurry Valuey, HRI, Mad Widdux, Yetlaws		these Counties; Bo raginer, Musseubert, I	averhead, Big Horn, Blar Park, Petroleum, Philips,	ne, Broadwater, Caro Powder River, Prairi	on, Catter, Chouteau e, Russevest, Rosebud	Caster, Dawson, Deer Silver Bow, Stillmater	Lodge, Fallon, Fergus, Sweet Grass, Treasur	Gallatin, Garlield, Gold e. Willey, Wheatland,
Coccothraustes	Fringillidae	G5	53	MBTA			SGCN3	3%	100%	Conifer forest
espertinus Evening Grosbeak	Finches	Wheatland			overhead, Broadwater, C her, Mineral, Missoula, M so Muth America have in	assessment corp. Chil	and the construction of th	ivel, saver, banders	Selve Bow, Stillwater	Stante, Jefferson, Junit, Cower Gress, Teton,
Oolichonyx oryzivorus Boboliok	Icteridae Blackhirds	U.5	335	MSTA			SGCN3	99.	100%	V4
	GIALRIFES	Practic Rayatti,	Richland Bousew	of Rosenia Santa	Charter Cart	a committy, magaziness, so	Little . Meagner, Mills	was musselshell, Park	, Patroisum, Printips, I	
ymnorhinus yanocephalus	Corvidae	65	53	MSTA: BCC17			SGCN3	5%	559	Prince and the second
Pinyon Jay	Jays / Crows / Magpres	Species Occurre Clars, Musselsher	nces verified in L. Pack, Petroleu	these Counties: Big ire, Phillips, Powder	Hinry Blaine, Broadwate Giver, Rosebud, Strowate	r. Carbon, Carter, Ca k, Sweet Grass, Whea	issano, Christeny, Cur Hand, Yellowstone	der, Fergus, Gattatin,	Serficie, Gelden Valle	y Jefferson, Lewis and
anius Iudovicianus Loggerhead Shrike	Shrikes	G4	538	MBTA: BCC10; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	416	100%	Shrubland
				these Counties: Bearing, Liberty, Mariso, Wheatland, Wibaux		se, Broadwater, Caro surishmi, Petroleum	on, Carter, Cascage, C Phillips, Pendera, Pov	houtesu, Custer, Dani ester River, Prairie, Sie	els, Bawson, Fallon, F. Hard, Roosevelt, Rose	orgus, Gallerin, Garfield, Hud, Sheridan, Stillwate
lumentus americanus Long-pilled Curtow	Sandolpers	G5	538	MBTA: BCC10; BCC11; BCC17		SENSIFIVE	5GCN3	19%	100%	Grasslands
		Species Occurre Flathers, Gallaci Phillips, Ponders Yellowstone	nces verified in ny Garfield, Glac , Powder River, P	these Counties: Bor icc. Golden Valley, G owell, Prairie, Raval	overhead, Big Horn, Signi Framte, Hill, Jefferson, J W. Wolstand, Rossevoit, I	e, Broadwater, Carp. Lighth Bosin, Lake, Le Insupud, Sandwa, Sh	on, Carter, Cascade, C wis and Clark, Liberty or dan, Stillwater, Swi	houteau, Custer, Dann , Madhvin, Macane, Av set Grass, Eston, Foote	eis Dawson, Deer Led ragher, Missaula, Minu r. Treature, Valley, Wi	ge, Faiton, Fergus, nisheti, Park, Petroleum, eatland, Wibaux,
reoscoptes montanus age Thrasher	Mimidae Thrashers / Mockingbirds	G4	538	MBTA; BCC10; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	9%	84%	Sagebrush
220000000000000000000000000000000000000	/ Catoirds		nces verified in the line Petrol	these Counties: Bea	werhoes, Big Hors, Bene- er River, France, Richtan	dwater, Carbon, Cart. J. Nosebud, handers,	or, Chauteau, Guster, Silver Bow, Stillwater,	Failor, Gallatin, Garfi Sweet Grass, Valley, 1	rid, Golden Valley, Jel Wheatland, Ye Inserted	ferson, Lewis and Clark,
rever's Sparrow	Passerellidae New World Sparrows	GS	\$38	MBTA: BCC10; BCC17		SENSTINE	5GCN3	12%	100%	Sagebrush
		Species Occurred Gartheid, Glacler, Nives, Powell, Pra	nces verified in t Golden Valley, G	these Counties: Box Iranito, 168, Jeffers	merhead. Big Horn, Blain im, Leko, Lewis and Clari tebud. Sanders, Silver Bo	e, Broadwater, Carbo k. Liberty, Lincoln, M	on, Carter, Chouseau. adison, Akkone, Meag	Custer, Dawson, Dest tier, Missoura, Messetal	Looge, Fallon, Fergus, boil, Park, Petroleum,	Flathead, Gallatin, Philipps, Pondera, Fowdo

WENTERS CHEET	13.00									- Species Occurrence
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLGBAL RANK	STATE	USFWS	USFS	Bl.M	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	TATISAH
Apalone spinifera Spiny Softshell	Trionychidae	G5	S3			SENSITIVE	SGCN3	2%	26%	Prairie rivers and large
others sources	Softshell Turties	Species Occurren	ces verified in the	tese Counties: its	Maria Marian Parka				2253.60	STERROOF
		Richland, Rosebus	Stillwater, Teto	n. Toole, Treesure,	Wheatland, Wipeux,	Velowstone	uster, Dawson, Fergi.	s, Gartielo, Golden Val	ley, Municipalist, Pet-	olaum, Platino, Prairie.

TER (ACMROPICE										Species Occurrence
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USPWS	USES	BLM.	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MI	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	HABITAT
Chrosomus eos Northern Redbetty Dace	Cyprinidae	G5	53				SGCN3	48	27%	Small prairie rivers
To visit incodedly bace.	MILLOWS						ergus, Garlield, Gulde , Tetan, Toole, Vaney,		asin, Levely and Clark,	

Species of Concern
10 Species
Filtered by the following criteria:
MT Satus - Species of Concern
Township - 008N014f (based on inapped Species Occurrences)

Species Occurrences

SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT % OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT BREEDING RANGE 2% 100% FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON) GLOBAL RANK STATE RANK USFWS USFS 81,14 Lasiurus cinereus Hoary Bat Vespertilionidae Bats G354 53 SCCN3 Riparian and forest

Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Beaverhead, Big Horn, Blame, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Cascade, Choudeau, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fergut, Flathwad, Galdatin, Garrield, Gladein, Galden Valley, Grante, Hill, Jeffreson, Audilla Basin, Lake, Lewis and Clark, Hosely, Unedin, Madison, Macrone, Maspire, Milardal, Missoula, Masselvied, Park, Petrounin, Philips, Pedragar, Powder River, Powell, Warrie, Ravalli, Alchland, Austreald, Sanders, Sendan, Salver Bow, Stilwater, Sweet Grass, Fetor, Toole, Treasure, Valley, Wheetland, Wilson, McConstone

TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	RFW	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	HARITAT		
Ardea herodias	Ardeidae	G5	53	MBTA			SGCN3	3%	100%	Riparian forest		
Great Stue Heron	Bitterns / Egrets / Herons / Night-Herons	Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Beaverhead, Big Horn, Stame, Broadwater, Carbon, Carrer, Capcade, Chouseau, Custer, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fergus, Fianneau, Gallatin, Gartfield, Glacere, Gulden Valley, Grantle, Pill, Jedferson, Author Basin, Loke, Levels and Clark, Liberty, Faucian Machan, Necture, Mengher, Menghe										
luteo regalis Ferruginous Hawk	Accipitridae Hawks / Kites / Eagles	G4	538	MBTA; BCC10; BCC17		SENSIT IVE	SGCN3	11%	954	Sagebrush grassland		
		Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Reaverhead, Blaine, Broadwater, Cartet, Cascade, Chouteau, Custer, Daniels, Daywon, Fallon, Fergus, Gallatin, Carteid, Claster, Golden Walley, 188, Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lewis and Clark, Liberty, Madison, Mccome, Mengior, Missrashell, Park, Petroleum, Phillips, Pondera, Powder, River, Palario, Rossevelt, Stockbud, Shend Stillwater, Holm, Golden, Mally, Windstand, Williams, Videovidane										
Calcarius ornatus Chestnut-collared Longspur	Calcartidae Longspurs and Snow Buntings	G5	528	MBTA; BCC11; BCC17		SENSITIVE	5GCN2	32%	67%	Grasslands		
		Basin, Lewis and I Wheattend, Willian	Clark, Liberty, N ux, Yellowstone on: Species ras a	Accone, Musselsheit, Pe a negative short-term o	troleum, Phillips, Po	wder River, Prairie, Bio	chiand, Roosevelt, Res	ebud, Sherigan, Stilliw	ater Sweet Grass, Te	solden Valley, Fist, Judit Ion, Toole, Valley, sity, and spatial district.		
Catharus fuscescens Veery	Turdidae	G5	S3B	MBTA		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	6%	2001	Riparian forest		
veery	Thrushes	Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Beaverhead, Big Horo, Blaine, Broadwater, Carbon, Calcade, Chouteau, Custon, Deer Lodge, Fungut, Flathead, Gallatin, Glader, Granite, Jefferson, Life, Lewis and Clark, Liberty, Liccoln, Madson, Mccone, Meagher, Mineral, Missouris, Masselsheid, Paris, Petroleum, Phillips, Panders, Poweler Street, Powelt, Ravalli, Richland, Rosscerell, Norscheid, Sanders, Stiver Boy, Stillwater, Sweet Gran, Telon, Wheathand, Videowittand, Videowittand										
Charadrius montanus Mountain Plever	Charadriidae Plovers	G3	528	MBTA; BCC11; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCNZ	20%	73%	Grasslands		
	Provers		nces verified in	these Counties: Blanc	e, Broadwater, Carbi	un Santin Cartalid C.	office Valley Letters	Manten translated	Consular States			
	Provers	Species Occurrer Treasure, Valley, 1	Wheatland			Ar, rengus, de ness, di	otten valley, Jesterson	I. managan, musterane	s, resident, rittiga	Rosebud, Teton, Toole,		
Mountain Plover	Scolopacidae Sandpipers	Species Occurrer Treasure, Valley, 1 G5	Wheatland 53B	MBTA; BCC10; BCC11; BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	195	100%	Rosebud, Teton, Toole, Grasslands		
	Scolopacidae	G5 Species Occurrer Flathead, Gallater	S3B sces verified in scarreld, Clad	MBTA; BCC10; BCC11; BCC17 these Counties; Brave	rbeac, Big Norm, Ri.	SENSITIVE Vine, Broadwater, Carp. Judith Basin, Cake, Le	SGCN3 on, Carter, Cascade, C	19% Diouteau, Caster, Daniel Markson, Moorea, M	100% els Bawan, Beer to	Grasslands		

FISH ACTINOPTE										2 SPECIES Species Occurrences
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	HABITAT
Chrosomus eos Northern Redbelly Date	Cyprinidae Minnows	G5	53				SGCN3	4%	27%	Small prairie rivers
		Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Blaine, Cascade, Choureau, Daniels, Davison, Fergus, Garrieid, Colden Valley, Hill, Judith Basin, Sewis and Clark Musechinell, Petroprum, Phillips, Pendera, Brithand, Reported, Speciedan, Stiftwater, Sweet Grass, Teton, Toole, Valley, Wheatland, Wigasix State Rank Reason: The Northern Reddelly Date is currently lated as an "ST" species of concern in Worldand because they are potentially at risk because of limited image and/or habitat, even chough it may be adjusted in some areas.								
Chrosomus eos x	Cyprinidae Minnows	GNA	53			SENSITIVE	. 5GCN3		20%	Small prairie streams
Chrosomus neogaeus Northern Redbelly X Finescale Dace		State Rank Keaso	u: The sections	rechelly/Finescale	te, Cascade, Choute Dade Hybrid is curren it may be abundant	thy insted as an '53' spe	ey, Judith Basin, Meas coles of concern in Mo	har, Petroleum, Phillip ntana because they ar	is. Pondera, Stillwate e potentially at risk b	r, felon, Valley, Wheatland coause of limited and/or

Species of Concern 5 Species Filterad by the following criteria: MF Skittas = Species of Concern Loweship = OSSEQ11F (Lowed on Inspecies Occurrences)

MAMMALS (MAM)	ext(A)									2 SPECIES Species Occurrence
SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	RL M	FWP SWAP	N OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS	HABITAT
Lasiurus cinereus Hoary Bat	Vespertilionidae Bits	6364	53		11-11-1		SGEN3	2%	100%	Riparian and forest
		Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Beaverhead, Big Hern, Blame, Broadwater, Cardon, Carter, Cascade, Choudawa, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Falton, Fergus, Flatthread, Galdeire, Galdeir, Galdeir Valley, Grantie, Hill, Jederson, Jurith Basin, Lake, Lewis and Clark, Liberty, Linzoln, Madison, Medien, Menghey, Blamed, Missadia, Musselshell, Philosecture, Philips, Pundera, Powder River, P								
Ayetis lucifugus	Vespertilionidae Bats	G3	5.3				SGCN3	3%	100%	Generalist
Little Brown Myotis			s, Pondera, Powd					Chouleau, Guster, Dans n, Madison, Micone, M iver Bow, Stilwater, Sc		ige, Fallon, Fergus,

										3 SPECIES
TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOEAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLW.	FWP SWAP	% OF GLORAL BREEDING RANGE IN ACT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	наврат
	Turdidae Thrushes	G5	538	MBTA		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	6%	108%	Riparian forest
	Charadriidae Plovers			these Counties: Beave , Liberty, Lincoln, Madis ver Bow, Stillwater, Swe- MBTA; BCC11; BCC17			usselshell, Park, Petr	oteum, Phil.ips, Pende	ra, Powder River, Powe	d. Ravalli, Richland, Grasslands
		Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Blaine, Broadwater, Carbon, Fergus, Carfield, Golden Valley, Jefferson, Macison, Musselshell, Petroleum, Philips, Risebud, Teton, Toole Treasure, Valley, Wheatland								
	Scolopacidae Sandpipers	G5	538	MBTA; BCC10; BCC11; BCC17		SENSITIVE	5GCN3	19%	100%	Grasslands

Temporary displacement may occur during the installation of the proposed telecommunication cable. No population effect is anticipated.

There are no known unique, endangered, fragile or limited environmental resources on this site.

No cumulative effects to habitat are anticipated.

10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:

Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.

A Class I (literature review) level review was conducted by the DNRC staff archaeologist for the area of potential effect (APE). This entailed inspection of project maps, DNRC's sites/site leads database, land use records, General Land Office Survey Plats, and control cards. The Class I search revealed that *Antiquities* have not been identified in the APE. No additional archaeological investigative work will be conducted in response to this proposed development. However, if previously unknown cultural or paleontological materials are identified during project related activities, all work will cease until a professional assessment of such resources can be made.

Stone Circles and cairns have been observes in SWSE1/4 of 9N 14E 22 which will not be affected because the proposed work will be in the NENE1/4. A historic homestead site is present on SWSE1/4 of 7N 15E 16 but the work would be in the SWNW1/4. Finally a historic railroad bed is present in 7N 18E 36 on the S1/2S1/2 but all of the work will be in NWNW1/4. All other sections have had cultural inventories present from previous projects and no cultural or paleontological resources have been done.

No effects on historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources anticipated.

11. AESTHETICS:

Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.

No direct or cumulative effects to aesthetics are anticipated.

12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:

Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.

No demands on limited resources are required for this project.

No direct or cumulative effects to environmental resources are anticipated.

13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:

List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.

There are no other projects or plans being considered on the tracts listed in this EA Checklist.

IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

- RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.
- Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.
- Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.

14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.

There will be some health and safety concerns associated with the operation of heavy equipment. The proponent and their employees are aware of any health and safety hazards and accept them as occupational hazards.

Once the installation has been completed, there will be no health and safety concerns associated with this project.

15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:

Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.

This project will not add to or deter from other industrial, agricultural, or commercial activities in this area.

16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:

Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.

The project will not create any new jobs. These positions are already held by employees of the proponent. No cumulative effects to the employment market are anticipated.

17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:

Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.

There are no direct or cumulative effects to taxes or revenue for the proposed project.

18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services

There will not be any increases in traffic or traffic patterns if this project is approved.

There will be no direct or cumulative effects on government services.

19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:

List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.

There are no zoning or other agency management plans affecting this project.

20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:

Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.

There will be no direct or cumulative effects on recreation or wilderness activities.

21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:

Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing

The proposed project does not include any changes to housing or developments. Population and housing will not be affected.

No direct or cumulative effects to population or housing are anticipated.

22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:

Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.

There are no native, unique or traditional lifestyles or communities in the vicinity that would be impacted by the proposal.

23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:

How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?

The proposed project will have no effect on any unique quality of the area.

24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:

Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

The proposed project will not have any cumulative economic or social effect.

V. FINDING 25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED: Alternative B (the Proposed Action) - Under this alternative, the Department does grant an easement for an 26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS: I have evaluated the potential environment effects and have determined that no negative long-term environmental impacts will result from the proposed activity. 27. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS: EIS More Detailed EA XXX No Further Analysis **EA Checklist** Name: Dustin Lenz Prepared By: Title: Land Use Specialist Signature: ush Date: 04/04/2018 Name: **EA Checklist** Barny D. Smith Approved By: Title: Unit Manager, Northeastern Land Office Signature: Date: 04/04/2018